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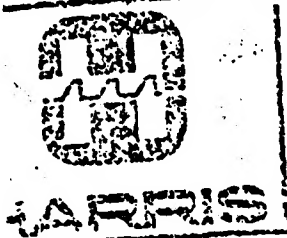
TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 15 Apr 83
TO:		
C/P&PS		
ROOM NO. 2F31	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
FROM: OL Safety Officer		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

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SUPERVISORY NEWS

OL. I - #52

March 16, 1983

SAFETY ALERT

note

Two recent incidents have uncovered a previously unknown phenomenon of serious gravity.

At Dequesne Electric Company a worker threw an electrical power switch into closed position which produced a short-lived sparking.

An employee, at UPS, flipped open the colored lense of his welding goggles to better position the welding rod. He inadvertently struck the metal to be welded, producing an arc.

Both men were wearing contact lenses. On returning home from work, they removed the contacts and the cornea of the eye was removed along with the lense.

RESULT: Permanent Blindness!

The electrical arc generates microwaves that instantly dries up the fluid between the eye and the lense, causing the cornea to be bonded to the lense. This trauma is painless and the individual never knows an injury has occurred until removing the contacts.

Federal and state safety and health agencies are investigating these situations and will respond according to their findings.

With this in mind, it is suggested that no contact lenses be worn by anyone who is potentially subject to an electrical sparking situation.